

Announcements.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

COD LIVER OIL JELLY.

This is a sweet and exceedingly palatable jelly easily retained and digested by the most delicate stomach. Children speedily grow fond of it and ask for more, and although it contains 50 per cent. of the purest Cod Liver Oil, all fishy taste and flavour is entirely covered.

COD LIVER OIL EMULSION.

A form in which the oil may be taken without difficulty by delicate patients and children.

COD LIVER OIL EMULSION WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES (Lime and Soda).

A combination of great value in wasting diseases, especially of the Chest and Respiratory Organs.

BALSAM OF ANISEED AND LIQUORICE.

For the relief of all catarrhal complaints, such as Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, and Soreness of the Chest, &c.

BALSAMIC COUGH LOZENGES.

A never failing remedy for Coughs.

SIR R. MARTIN'S MIXTURE.

The remedy for Influenza, Cold in the Head, Hay Fever, Catarrh. Prepared from a prescription of Sir R. Martin.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 4th October, 1892.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

SEEDS.

WE have received ex-S.S. ROSETTA

our first shipment for this Season of VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS, and are now prepared to execute orders promptly.

CATALOGUES containing numbers and names of Seeds with HINTS FOR GARDENING and other useful information, will be sent post free to any address on application.

Orders from one person: \$5.00 to \$10.00, 25 per cent. discount allowed.

over \$10.00, an extra 5 per cent. discount allowed.

CLAY'S FERTILIZER.

A High Class FERTILIZER for POT PLANTS and for use in the Garden generally.

It supplies natural nourishment to the soil, and assists the process of assimilation, thereby aiding the plants to attain to their full size, vigour and beauty.

Sold in tins containing 10lbs. each...\$1.50.

" " " 25lbs. " " \$3.00.

Special quotations for large quantities.

RANSOME'S NEW PARIS

LAWN MOWERS.

\$17.00 each.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1847.

Hongkong, 14th September, 1892.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1892.

PUNCTUALITY AT THE SUPREME COURT.

Mr. Jno. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., is not always happy in his methods of attack. He lacks the patience of the astute diplomat, and apparently knows but little of the *finer* which one would naturally expect from the trained and experienced cross-examiner. But the learned gentleman is nevertheless a redoubtable opponent; if his blows are not exactly *straight* from the shoulder, they are delivered with sledge-hammer force, and generally get home. With good intentions, for which we give him full credit, he would certainly accomplish a great deal more by abandoning the bull-at-a-gate policy for which he is locally famous, and tempering his onslaughts on men and things by a leaven of judgment and discretion, which virtues he no doubt possesses in an eminent degree. But *malgré tout*, Mr. FRANCIS was certainly justified in the action he took in the Supreme Court on September 28th, when Mr. Acting Justice POLLOCK took his seat on the bench exactly forty minutes after the hour fixed for the hearing of the case that was on the roll—the members of the bar, solicitors, witnesses and the general public having been kept waiting that time for his lordship's pleasure. Some mistake had no doubt been made, as the Acting Judge stated that he had told his clerk to let Mr. FRANCIS know that the case could not be taken until 10.30 a.m.; but even if the Q.C. had received this notice, which he had not, it would still be no excuse for keeping the witnesses and the general public waiting. And it is worthy of remark here that Mr. Justice POLLOCK, although hard pressed by Mr. FRANCIS to state if he had been detained on public duties, contented himself by saying that he had "other duties to take him away." Presumably these other duties were not of a public

character, and if they had been, attending to them would be no excuse for keeping a crowded court-room waiting for forty minutes. Judges are just as much the servants of the rate-payers as a Junior clerk in any Government department; they have their duties and responsibilities like all other public servants, and if they fall in them they are just as amenable to criticism and censure as the lowly usher. There is nothing privileged or holy and sanctified about men who are paid to administer the law; if they adequately perform their duties they are laborers worthy of their hire; if they don't, why, then, their services can be dispensed with—and they are at liberty to become missionaries.

Unpunctuality in the law courts of this colony has been a substantial grievance for many years, and never was it more intensified than during the *regime* of JOHN MINNINNETT's special advocate, Sir JUDAS RUSSELL. It was nothing unusual for this pampered "Solomon" come to judgment, on Criminal Sessions days, to waddle into Court from twenty minutes to half an hour late—his Honour, on taking his seat on the bench, always recalled to our memory the historic legend of "GORGING JACK" and "GUZZLING JIMMY"—and he never had the decency to make an apology for his gross neglect of duty and inexcusable discourtesy. The duties of a common jurymen are hard enough without his having to wait in a court-room until 'my lord's' personal convenience is suited. Knowing all this, and seeing week after week the members of 'the lower bar' loafing into court at any and all times without regard to the hour previously fixed, we rejoiced when Mr. HENRY E. POLLOCK, on his appointment as Acting Puisne Judge, plainly intimated to these backsliders that ten o'clock meant ten o'clock, and not half past ten. And we regretted when his lordship—we have a hazy suspicion that an intricate chess problem may have been the actual duty—laid himself open to the vigorous onslaught of the combative Q.C.

In the second instance, on September 29th, the delinquent was his Honour the Chief Justice. Mr. FRANCIS was ready, armed at all points, but his lordship realised the situation at a glance and took first innings, as the Rajah was not in a hurry to speak this time. The old-and-infirm excuse of the Court not sitting on mail days until 10.30 was trotted out, and although the Q.C. declined to be extinguished without protest, his lordship very adroitly checkedmate his wily adversary by referring to "general directions," and wound-up the discussion by making a sort of semi-official order that in future on mail mornings the court should not sit until 10.30. And then peace reigned supreme, and the ordinary business was proceeded with. Mr. FRANCIS, Q.C., without any manner of doubt whatever, has been the most unpunctual practitioner the local bar has ever known—we were present in court on two separate occasions when gentle, easy-going Sir GEORGE PHILLIPS had to severely reprimand him for stopping too long at tiffin—but all the same, he has done good service in his recent aggressive action against the unwarranted assumptions of the Bench, and has no doubt laid the foundation of a code of discipline that will greatly facilitate the satisfactory carrying out of the daily business of the Supreme Court.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

CHOLERA IN INDIA.

ALLAHABAD, September 14th.

The total number of cases of cholera among the Kashmir troops was 34, 22 of which terminated fatally. The disease was contracted, it is supposed, at Bhatnagar, on the march from Rawalpora. The troops were healthy when they left Jammu. The last case occurred at Bhatnagar, on the Jhelum Valley road, on the 9th instant. Since that date the troops have been quite free from the disease.

September 15th.

There is now no cholera at Darband, where the 15th Field Force will concentrate, and all preparations are progressing for the reception of more troops.

Captain Finken, 3rd Sikhs, has died of cholera at Murre. The deceased officer had seen a good deal of service in Afghanistan and on the North-west frontier. He was badly wounded in the fighting about Sherpur in December 1879.

September 16th.

The outbreak of cholera among the Kandahar troops engaged in the operations against the Hazarehs is confirmed. There is no chance now of a general attack upon the tribesmen, such as was recently planned.

SIMLA, September 15th.

A very serious outbreak of cholera is reported in the camp of the Governor of Kandahar at Chur in the Hazara country. The forces are demoralised and the general attack on the Hazarehs proposed for the middle of September is indefinitely postponed.

ANOTHER MISSIONARY GRAB.

LONDON, September 24th.

Lord Rosebery, in replying to a deputation from the Church Missionary Society urging on the Government the retention of Uganda, promised that the Cabinet would consider the wishes of the deputation, but said that he was unwilling to draw the nation into a venture the ending of which was not at all clear.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE U.S.S. *Petrel* returned to Shanghai from Niagpo on the 30th ult.

The Agents (Messrs. Dowdell, Carrill & Co.) inform us that the steamship *Tartar* left Singapore for this port to-day, and is due on or about the 10th inst.

The Great Northern Telegraph Co.'s steamer *Stora Nordiska* was at Sharp Peak when the *Hallan*, which arrived here to-day, left Foochow on the 30th ult.

The *China Mail* refers in last night's issue to the "Person" who abhor the "unpleasant." To which we would add, in the words of the *Dallas Oracle*—"Gracious sensation."

The north-east monsoon seems to have fairly set in and for the past three days it has had the effect of lowering the temperature to between 60 and 70 degrees.

The Agents (Messrs. Dowdell, Carrill & Co.) inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship Co.'s steamship *Victoria* left Tacoma for this port, via Japan, on the 2nd inst.

The *Zambesi*, Capt. Edwards, under charter to the Northern Pacific Company, sailed to-day for Tacoma, via Kobe and Yokohama, with all the cargo that could be squeezed in.

An Emergency meeting of Zeland Lodge, No. 525, E.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zeland Street, on Thursday, the 6th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

On arrival at Singapore on Sept. 25th the "Blue Funnel" liner *Palmyra* reported that a Japanese male passenger from Hongkong named Jostel Kawa was missing. He was last seen on deck at 11.45 on the night of the 24th.

MR. AUGUSTO MARQUES, whose sad death we reported last night, was not a single man, as stated. He was married in Singapore some eight years ago, where his widow now resides. He only child, a son, we believe died some time since.

The full-rigged steel ship *Troop*, which arrived at Swatow on the 21st ult. from New York, had 22,000 cases of kerosene for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Her total cargo consists of 55,000 cases of kerosene, part of which is for Amoy and part for Tamsui.

The Chevalier Pansa, Italian Minister to China, arrived here this morning from Shanghai by the M.M. Co.'s steamer *Malbourne*. His Excellency proceeds to Bangkok, under instructions from the Italian Government, to decorate the King of Siam with the Order of the Annunziata.

Latest news from Tientsin is that gradually the waters are falling, and all danger of farther flooding is past. It is stated, however, that the suffering of the coming winter in the flooded sections is likely to be worse than anything yet known in that vicinity since foreigners first settled at Tientsin.

The Band of the 1st Shropshire Light Infantry played at the Peak, on the grounds between Crispin Road and the Mount, on Thursday next, October 6th, from 4 to 6.15 p.m., the following programme:—

Post March, "Der Tambour" (Wagner).

Selection, "Faust" (Gounod).

March, "Wien" (Strauss).

Concert Solo, "The Garden of Sleep" (Wagner).

Selection, "Papa" (Liszt).

Selection, "Der Tambour" (Wagner).

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MASTERS of coasting steamers will find an important *Notice to Mariners* in our advertising columns.

The Shanghai native paper *Huapao* confirms the report published in the *Telegraph* last week that the China Merchants' Co. had secured a suitable site for a wharf in Hongkong. Our contemporary adds—"It is further stated that the Company intends putting on some boats between Canton and Hongkong."

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, Acting Puisne Judge.)

October 4th.

THE MISSING TREASURE CASE.

The suit of Marty and Co. versus Chan Yu Chi and others, in which plaintiffs sought to recover \$700 from the defendants of their charter steamer *Swatow* and from his guarantors, was resumed to-day. Mr. Hastings (Wotton and Deacon) was for plaintiffs, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson for defendants. His Lordship had reserved judgment, but called the parties into court again and asked for more evidence as to the contents of the missing treasure chest.

Mr. Hastings stated that he had no evidence more than that given at the previous hearing, unless a commission could be obtained to take further evidence at Hongkong. He submitted, however, that plaintiffs had made out their case by simply proving that they paid \$700 to the defendants, and that it was necessary to prove that \$700 had been lost. The defence had not suggested that the money had been improperly paid, so the case was sufficiently proved for the plaintiff.

His Lordship thought that, in case of appeal, the point might be raised whether there was evidence that \$700 was lost.

Mr. Hastings said it had not been raised, and that plaintiffs had broken down on that point. He submitted that plaintiffs had closed his case, and should not be allowed to re-open it.

Mr. Hastings said the defence was based on the defendant's denial of having ever received the \$700 parcel, and on that the case should rest. As to the proof of the contents of the parcel, the only evidence in this Colony was the shipper's letter of advice to the consignee. Nobody else but the shippers, the Man Hing Long, could give evidence.

His Lordship pointed out that the bill of lading specially said "value unknown," and contained \$700. There was no ground for saying that the defendant admitted the statement as true, and the case could not be decided without evidence on the point.

After some further discussion the case was adjourned until Friday next.

MEETING OF LICENSING JUSTICES.

At the Magistrate's today a meeting of Licensing Justices was held, to consider two applications. Mr. Wodehouse presided, and was the only Justice present.

Mr. Hastings (Wotton and Deacon) on behalf of Terry Silbermann, applied for permission to move his business as licensed publican from 335 and 338, Queen's Road central, under the sign of "The Land We Live In," to 334 Queen's Road central.

No objection from the police.

Application granted.

Mr. Geddes (Johnson, Stokes and Master) on behalf of John Olsen, applied for the transfer of his publican's licence at 148 and 150, Queen's Road central, under the sign of the Stag Hotel, to William W. W.

No objection from the police.

Application granted.

A FINANCIAL CONUNDRUM.

Financial circles in Hongkong have been in a dreadful state of fermentation since Thursday last, and nobody knows what it will all come to. But we know, as the *Dallas Oracle* has so aptly said, what has already happened. At everybody must be aware, the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. has the handsome sum of \$150,000 in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on fixed deposit at 4 per cent. per annum; it isn't there now—it is in the vaults of that noble institution facetiously described as "the Pawnshop"—let us explain.

The Hon. E. R. Bell, as chairman of the Steamboat Co., has transferred with the consent of his co-directors, has transferred the Company's deposit of \$150,000 from the safe keeping of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to that of the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Limited, late the Trust and Loan Co. It is said that Mr. Bell's has a special object to attain in this new departure, and rumours are prevalent about private grudges and a lot of other similar nonsense. The primary object ought to be plain enough. The Bank of China is paying for this loan of \$150,000—let us say it is practically amounting to a loan of \$150,000 at the security of 7 per cent. per annum. But the security good enough? It is currently reported that the late Trust and Loan Co. has something less than a million dollars in its treasure chest, and that a shipload of sheldons would come in handy just at present. We believe that, and it is evident enough that money must be had to pay such a sum, and the Bank would not pay such a sum, and the security ought not to be so flimsy, although it was not Mr. Bell's—the security is more than sufficient. A lien on one thousand shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—we assume the said one thousand shares are in the Steamboat Co.'s safe to prevent accidents—worth \$250,000, is more than adequate cover for this loan, so that, quite apart from all other considerations, Mr. Bell's has certainly done a good stroke of business for his shareholders. And he is handsomely paid to look after their interests. In these hard times an item of \$45,000 per annum for extra interest on sleeping capital is not to be sneezed at, and especially when this amount can be obtained without any risk whatever.

Of course the automatic management of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank view Mr. Bell's action with disfavor, and we understand that this Bank's rate has been raised to 7 per cent., the argument for this advance being that if the Bank of China, Japan and the Straits can afford to pay 7 per cent. for accommodation, the general community can do likewise. Plausible but not convincing—let us not accept it. However, that is the situation, let the consequences be what they may.

We hoped and believed a few weeks ago that the bad times of the past two years had reached their zenith, and that the tide had taken a favorable turn. We don't think so now. The "Open Letter" on the Bank of China, published a couple of months ago in the *Telegraph*, and which was partly provoked from the heavy losses that were constantly being reported on the part of the Bank, has been largely forgotten.

BOAT RACE.

"TORPEDO" V. SEA PIG.

A very exciting boat race for \$70 a side took place last night between a boat from the Kowloon Dept called the *Torpedo* and the new boat belonging to the *Porpoise*, called the *Sea Pig*. The course was from Blackhead's point to a flag boat stationed just astern of the *Porpoise*, a distance of one nautical mile. At the flash of the gun the *Sea Pig* jumped away, and had the advantage for the first hundred yards, when Mr. C. Marks, E.R.A., stroke of the Kowloon boat, quickened from 34 to 35 to the minute, gradually drawing ahead, and gained a good boat's length. However, within a few yards of the bows of the gunboat the coxswain of the *Torpedo* had to put his rudder hard over to clear the *Porpoise*, he intending to all appearances to go round her bows. This mishap gave the *Pig* a chance which her crew were not slow to take. Both boats now made a spurt, pulling 38 to the minute, and eventually the Kowloon boat, quickened from 34 to 35 to the minute, gradually drawing ahead, and gained a good boat's length. However, within a few yards of the bows of the gunboat

The new Victoria sets his face sternly against gambling, and the law against it has been strictly enforced since his arrival. Several arrests of proprietors of gambling dens have been made this week. The frequenters of these dens are said to be chiefly sergeants of the garrison and yamen runners. When the city is clear of them, the authorities will find a field for their action in Nantai.

On Tuesday last some 1400 runners camped a couple of miles from the street over the Bridge with rather heavy bundles on their shoulders, and as the men did not respond to their summons to stop they gave chase, believing the contents of the bundle to be of value. On their coming up to him with their shouts and taps on the back, the bundle was dropped and the man fled. The 1400 men took it home, with the intention, no doubt, of dividing the spoil, when, to their dismay, they found it to contain a child of a year old, dead & small.

That the newly appointed Viceroys of this province are an exceptionally wise and judicious Governor is shown, as in other ways, by his action in this Tek-hua difficulty. Instead of subduing these people by force of arms, as was the case with his predecessor, he has commissioned the General to parley with them, to ask them particulars of their grievances, and ascertain what will put it right. The General, bold though he is, could not approach them in person, knowing their sentiments towards him; but he sent a deputy to treat with them. A long conference ended in the deputy proposing an investigation of last autumn's troubles, to be held in Foochow. The Tek-hua people objected to this, and said that they would only be satisfied if the investigation took place in Tek-hua. The deputy, on behalf of the General, assured them that the investigation would be held in Tek-hua, with the assurance that their grievances would be righted. With this news there appears to be every prospect of the trouble coming to an end. It is said that the Tek-hua people, like those of the province generally, are peace-loving, and very easily ruled; but that they are not without spirit, and are apt to become very troublesome if they are treated with injustice. —ECHO.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

In order to keep out intruders and prevent trespassers by the people, a number of soldiers will be kept at the tomb of the 7th Prince, where they will keep constant watch over the sacred precincts of the royal sepulchre.

The continual drought in the country round about Ningpo was broken the latter part of last month when several downpours fell over a large area of the thirty county. In some cases the fields were flooded, and outlets had to be cut to allow the water a passage to its proper channels.

It is said that the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. has chosen a suitable place, and obtained the required permission from the colonial government at Hongkong, to put up their own wharf in this port. The work of building the wharf will be commenced shortly. It is further stated that the Company intends putting on some boats between Canton and Hongkong.

The Kiangsi Treasurer, Fong, has returned from his tour of inspection of the Fukien fortifications, and has submitted his report to the Governor. In the report he states that the stronghold at Wuchikong is in such a condition that it needs complete reconstruction, as it would not pay to have it repaired. The guns which were recovered from the silver are also deemed unsafe for further service, and will be replaced by new ones. The duties of the new fortress have been ordered to go about their business, and to carry out the wishes of the authorities by carefully attending to their respective charges.

A rather great and serious catastrophe has taken place in Kungtung, which in nature was not dissimilar to the one which occurred in the Changlof. On the 29th ultimo, in the country belonging to the Lungchow Hui, a certain 14 family, for which instantly vast columns of water were sent, in a wonderfully short space of time the surrounding country was over-run by the rushing torrent, which attained in some places the depth of 10 feet or more. Great destruction has been wrought everywhere, but no particular have yet come to light as to the extent of the damage done by the sudden calamity.

It is reported that the Viceroys of Fukien has lately been receiving alarming intelligence from Sha Hsien, where the people have raised the standard of rebellion. It is stated also that the mountainous of the Tung-King Shan are in sympathy with the insurgents, and are co-operating with the rebellious party, who identify themselves with the faction of the late rebel leader, Sheng Kung. Some people are inclined to the belief that the leader of the uprising is no other than the self-same Sheng Kung, who was supposed to have been executed. This is true it is hard to believe, but the person who was captured and decapitated some time ago under that name, has been seen by the people, and it is reported that tranquillity and peace will soon be restored.

The inundations up North this year, says the *Huapao* correspondent at Peking, form one of the greatest calamities which the people of Chihli and Shingking have experienced for many years past. The way the people of these provinces are sending relief to the distressed provinces is worthy of commendation. At no time in former years have these latter been so generous or diligent in sending their contributions to the suffering people. The resident foreigners are also raising funds for the relief of the unfortunate, showing that on benevolent subjects the foreigners and Chinese are of one mind. A short time ago a certain foreign gentleman handed over the sum of five hundred odd dollars to one of the charitable institutions there, and directed that this sum, which he had collected, should go to the inundated districts and be distributed amongst the people there.

According to the instructions of his Excellency Kang, the Governor of Kuangtung, the magistrate of the Nantai district has issued a proclamation setting forth the great and urgent fold benefits of raising silk-worms and urging the people to take up that industry as a means of enriching themselves. The document goes on to say that owing to the nature of the land in the greater portion of that province not being suited for the cultivation of grain, as is shown by the fact that the yield of that province has never been able to supply more than 50 per cent. of the population, hence it would be better to take up some other and more profitable industry. It is proposed that the initial steps for the introduction of this new industry should be taken by the officials of the land, so as to give encouragement to the people, who are urged to pursue this new branch of trade. Besides expatiating upon the great and profitable possibilities that may eventually result from the development of this industry, for which the nature of the land is adapted, the proclamation points out that the morals of the people will also be improved. It says, by giving employment

to the countless numbers of the poor in the fields of honest labour, which this industry encourages, crime, which is the product of idleness and idleness, will be appreciably decreased, and bad people will harbour no thought of committing acts of lawlessness, when they have something better to occupy their minds.

The following account of the action of a highwayman serves to show that even amongst the most lawless and worst type of men, there are some who still have the higher and better feelings of humanity. That they are sometimes able to do praiseworthy deeds is clearly shown by the following narrative. A certain man named Wong was an assistant in a rice-shop in one of the Canton cities where he had to remain for a year or two. On the last year he received a letter from his far distant home in the mountains, giving him the unwelcome news that his aged mother was dangerously ill and dying, and that his presence was required at her bedside. On hearing this the assistant hastily got leave from his master, who allowed him to draw several months' wages in advance to pay for his mother's medical treatment, and set forth on foot over the mountains for his home. On arriving at a certain point on the route he was challenged by a highwayman who demanded his money. Knowing that his mother was useless, the poor man fell upon his knees and in tears entreated the robber to allow him to go without paying the customary toll, at the same time relating his sorrow. The thief was deeply moved by the man's narrative and forthwith produced from his pocket a handful of silver and gave it to the man. The robber told him that he was a good and gentle soul, and directed him to go straight to his home and attend to his sick mother, and also asked him to accept the money as a contribution from him towards the expenses of the sick person's medical treatment. The completion parted and each went his own way, the traveller to his mother and the merciful outlaw to regions unknown.

A SUMMER HOLIDAYS SEA TRIP.

It is needless to say that uniforms abound in Vladivostok, naval, military, or civilian. There are many thousands of troops stationed in the place, but during the summer these are camped out in the hills round about, but still there are many about the town who are occupied in various Government undertakings, whether on the railway or elsewhere. At this time of the year they are dressed in white blouses, than which nothing can look more unsoldierly, and all wear big boots which are apparently never cleaned. Indeed the Russian soldiers are very uncleanly, and are hardly and no doubt capable of great endurance, and I was informed by a competent authority that they are excellently drilled. There are many Russian women about the place, the wives of soldiers and others, rough and clumsy in appearance and delighting in dresses of bright colours, in which crimson, scarlet and orange are frequently combined. Bonnets or hats are not used by them, but if the head is covered at all it is by a gauzy handkerchief. Some of the Vladivostok ladies are well dressed, but the inferior affect fashions of a bygone day and look very dowdy. The ubiquitous Chinamen are in great force, keeping stores, or supplying the market, and acting as sampan-men, stevedores, jumpers, washermen, carter, etc., and numbers of Chinese are employed on the Government works, as carpenters, masons, etc., in which work they are also supplemented by Japanese. Koreans do the rough coolie work of the place. There is a large trade done in shipping from Chefoo to Vladivostok, and from enquiry from the Chinese make too to 150 per cent. profit on the wretched Chinese pears and apples they sell, there being no fruit at all grown about Vladivostok.

Since the disturbance last year convicts have been sent out of Vladivostok, but are employed on the railway about ten or twelve miles from the place, but at Vladivostok itself all work on the place and the railway buildings is done by soldiers and Japanese. The day after our arrival, Sunday, the 15th instant (August the 30th, according to the Russian calendar), was the Name Day of the Emperor, and was observed as a festive day. A full service was held at the Cathedral at 9.30 a.m., which large numbers of civil and military officials and residents attended. The singing was extremely good and was unaccompanied by any instrument, but all the members of the choir possessed excellent voices and sang beautifully in tune. The service was over shortly before 11 o'clock, when there was a parade of five companies of troops, and at a given signal the official buildings and men-of-war in port were dressed with flags, and a royal salute was fired from the ships and batteries. When the salute was finished the military band struck up the national anthem, and during the whole time it was being played the troops on parade showed "hurrah" in order, and in regular time. During the afternoon official calls were interchanged, and at night a grand ball was given at the Hotel Club.

There are very few places of amusement at Vladivostok and those for the most part of the nature of a music hall, where singing and dancing in costume takes place. The hotel accommodation is wretched in the extreme, and if the place increases when the railway is opened there will be a fine chance for a good manager to open a first class hotel.

There were about two hundred gipsies in Vladivostok who had arrived there from Iukut where they had originally found their way from Serbia. They had plenty of money amongst them, and those I saw were well dressed, but they did not hesitate to beg from passers-by. They intend proceeding to San Francisco, and will take their passage from Vladivostok very shortly by the *Yokohama*, on route to Yokohama, so that residents in Japan will be able to make the acquaintance of these strange but undesirable people.

During our stay in port the temperature was very agreeable, and cold enough at night to make sleeping under a blanket desirable. September appears to be the "off" month at Vladivostok, as there was no fishing or shooting to be got, no fun worth having could be obtained, the best *carp* and salmon had not arrived from the north, and the fresh salmon obtainable in the market was pretty tasteless. Vladivostok stock beef is not good; but the market was well supplied with vegetables, the potatoes being particularly fine. A very heavy duty is levied on foreign wines, spirits and tobacco, in order to foster Russian trade, so that generally speaking vodka and Russian wines are consumed and Russian tobacco is smoked. We took up in the *Satsuma Maru* 65 cases of *vin ordinaire* for the French flag-ship *Trojan*, which lay in the harbour with the *Yokohama* without being landed, for to the extent of 1,500 roubles, which was much beyond the value of the wine. It would have been better had the Admiral sent the *Yokohama* to Genoa to meet our steamer and there take delivery of the wine. On the morning of the 17th instant we saw a fine American schooner brought in port by Russian sailors, which had been seized for smuggling on the coast. Five of these vessels

all under the American flag, had been taken, and one of them was given up to convey the American crew back to San Francisco, but four of the vessels the Russians retained. For the one which came in to Vladivostok, the American skipper offered \$20,000, but the Russians did not close the bargain, so after lying for a long period in Vladivostok harbour the schooner will probably be disposed of for a trifling sum, as is usually the case.

Our steamer was advertised to leave Vladivostok at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, the 13th, and the ship was ready to start at that hour, but we had to wait for the agents, as punctuality is an unknown quantity in Vladivostok. This was very disappointing, as we were all anxious to see the entrance to the harbour by daylight, and this fine sight we missed, as we did not leave our anchorage until 6.30 p.m., just when darkness was coming on. Wednesday, the 14th, was a bright cold day, and we had made such good progress during the night that we were 100 miles from Vladivostok by 8.30 a.m., and anchored at Genoa at 6.30 p.m. The next morning, thanks to the kind care and direction of Mr. Olsen, the Commissioner of Customs, we took a long walk into the country, to the tomb of a Princess situated in the present day, which is prettily situated on a hill from the surrounding country. As it was the King of Korea's birthday Mr. Olsen had to leave us in order to take part in some official function, but we found our way back to the ship without any difficulty. We left Genoa at 4 p.m. that day, and arrived in Fusan at 4 p.m. the next day, Friday, the 16th instant. The weather was threatening, but we got ashore for a walk at afternoon, and saw enough of Fusan to make us wish to more fully explore it. It rained heavily during the night, and on Saturday morning was wet and lowering, but one other passenger and myself defied the weather and went ashore, and were rewarded by a delightful though damp stroll all over the town and a good deal of the surrounding country, and with the ascent to the temple which stands on a hill covered with noble fir trees right in the midst of the town. The town itself is purely Japanese one and is well built, and laid out in a neat way peculiar to the Japanese. The settlement has been established for upwards of 100 years, and there are over 10,000 inhabitants, together with very many fishermen. Formerly the Japanese government granted a subsidy to Fusan, but I was informed that funds are now remitted to the mother country. The Japan Consul-General has absolute power, but seems to use it with discretion, governing the place through a Municipal Council. Formerly the harbour was sooted with wharves, but recently has been cleared of them, and the residents are ordered to deposit their goods from their houses, and to discard things, so as to avoid the risk of fire, and now every house in Fusan is well tiled.

Thanks to the kindness of the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. J. H. Hunt, who invited me to his house, I had the opportunity of meeting some Korean officials, as the Prefect, District Magistrate, and Superintendent of Police, were present at the house. The former being a nobleman was alone privileged to wear a crimson silk robe which had the significance of a Chinese mandarin's button. On his departure the Prefect was carried in a chair by four bearers, but the other two officials had to content themselves with two bearers.

We left Fusan at 4.30 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki at 6 a.m. on Sunday, the 18th. We had to spend two days in port, as we were pleased to have the weather so cooler than on the occasion of our previous visit. We left Nagasaki at 5 p.m. on Monday, the 19th, and after a passage that rolled us about a little arrived at Shanghai on the 21st at 3 p.m. The *Satsuma Maru* is a very fast steamer, for she does 13 knots on an average without being pushed, and as Captain Sommer has earned the reputation of being one of the most skilled and careful commanders on the coast, even the most timid passenger can travel by her with confidence. From a pleasure-seeker's point of view I would suggest that the Company should so arrange the schedule that passengers could rely upon a sufficient detention of the steamer at Chemulpo to enable them to visit Seoul. Properly speaking, passengers ought to leave the steamer at Vladivostok, but as hotel accommodation there is very bad, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha very liberally allow passengers to remain on board the steamer at the moderate charge of \$2.50 per day, for meals.

Thus, I can highly recommend to all who are fond of sea travelling, there is plenty of novelty and change of scene to be met with, and in no instance does the run from one port to another occupy over forty-eight hours. We were never troubled with weather so rough as to make the trip disagreeable, and though we were twenty-four days on board the steamer, so enjoyable was the trip that none of us felt weary, and I was never tired myself from my travels. My principal object in calling attention to this summer trip is to make known to Shanghai residents that, thanks to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, they may enjoy a delightful sea voyage, avoid the great heat of Shanghai, and visit many interesting places at a cost which will bear favourable comparison with any outlay necessary for a holiday trip anywhere in the East.—N. C. Daily News.

KOREA.

Chemulpo, September 8th. It would appear after all that business is meant in building a mint here, although it had been currently reported that the money raised for that purpose had been expended. The steamer *Yokohama* is expected to arrive here other day with a cargo of trucks and other building materials for the new venture. The site selected is to the north-east of the general foreign settlement, and will contribute in imparting a more general interest to the latter place.

The China and Japan Trading Co. have started a branch of their business here lately, with Mr. C. F. Oberlein as manager; this is the second American firm in our port. Besides these two foreign establishments, there are only two others, which are of German nationality, and a great number of the numerous Japanese and Chinese merchants and storekeepers as foreigners, because, I presume, they are quite at home in Eastern Asia. Chemulpo is evidently going ahead, and the Land of Morning Calm is surely progressing. The long pending foreshore question between the Korean and Japanese Governments appears to have been settled now at least the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are certainly beginning to reclaim land in front of their premises, a very sensible and important thing to do, of many advantages, which no doubt will also prove in the long run a very profitable enterprise. I give the "Yips" credit for being smart and keen-ahead people; they are really the Yankees of Eastern Asia. 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